

# BEST PRACTICE CATALOG

Project Title: **PRIVILEGING FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS**

Function Category: ☐ PATIENT-FOCUSED ☒ ORGANIZATION ☐ STRUCTURES

Subcategory: **Management of Human Resources** Heading: **Orienting, Training, and Educating Staff**

Key Word(s): **Privileging**

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Hospital: **Vacaville Psychiatric Program**

**Purpose:** It is the goal of the Vacaville Psychiatric Program (VPP) to provide quality psychological services to inmates/patients (I/P's) served by this program. In order to assure that quality psychological services are provided, clear requirements for credentialing, standards of practice, privileging, and peer review are established.

**Brief Description:** Credentialing assures that all psychologists on the VPP staff have adequate educational and supervised experience to meet the requirements of the California Personnel Board and California Board of Psychology. Standards of practice assure that all psychologists provide adequate type and quality of service for the position they occupy. Privileging assures that psychologists work only within the confines of their training and experience. Peer review provides assurance that psychologists provide quality of service that is considered by their peers to meet community standards of competence.

**Selection Basis/Criteria:** In 1996, VPP psychology service voluntarily initiated a comprehensive privileging procedure whereby the education, training, and competence of each member of the service is evaluated by three of his/her peers. Initially, education, training, and competence are evaluated. On a follow-up yearly basis, competence, participation, and continuing education of each service member is re-evaluated by three different peers. Documentation of continuing education and committee participation is submitted to the privileging committee. Work samples for each area of privileging are submitted, and oral examinations of those work samples are conducted. Purposes of this procedure are to assure that psychologists are practicing within the scope of their expertise, and to provide constructive direction and guidance to improve the quality of service provided by each member of the psychology service. This ongoing peer review serves both VPP and the I/P's that VPP serves.

The following items are available regarding this Best Practice:

☐ Photographs ☐ Video Tape ☐ Drawings ☒ Manual

☐ Other : \_\_\_\_\_

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